

CLAIMS

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Grant
1. A telecommunication method comprising the steps of:-
providing a network including at least two network elements;
5 broadcasting data over the network by a first network element;
indicating the resources of the first network element available for sharing within the data;
requesting the use of at least part of the available resources of the first network element by a second network element;
10 executing a task by co-operation of the first and second network elements; and
releasing the resources of the first network element by the second network element upon completion of the task.
- 15 2. A method according to claim 1, including the step of the first and second network elements negotiating a cost for the resources.
3. A method according to claim 1, including the step of providing the network in the form of a wide band short range wireless network.
- 20 4. A method according to claim 1, including the step of providing at least one of the network elements in the form of a mobile device.
5. A method according to claim 1, including the step of providing
25 geographically distributed wireless base stations.

6. A method according to claim 1, including the step of providing the network in the form of a piconet.

7. A method according to claim 1, including the step of providing at least any one of the following as the resource to be shared:

memory;

a network connection;

processing power;

power source; or

a cheap connection.

8. A method of improving the performance of a network comprising the steps of:

providing a first network element adapted to broadcast data indicative of its resources over a network;

providing a second network element adapted to select which of the first network elements resources it requires

requesting said required resources by the second network element;

sharing said resources; and

use of said required resources by the second network element in concert with its own resources in the execution of a task.

9. A network comprising first and second network elements, the first network element having broadcast means adapted to broadcast data indicative of resources of the first network element available for sharing, the second network element having communication means adapted to

request at least some of said available resources, the first and second network elements being adapted to execute a task, co-operatively utilising said resources.

5 10. A network according to claim 9 wherein the network is a wireless network.

11. A network according to claim 9 wherein the network is a wide bandwidth short range wireless network.

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12. A network according to claim 9 wherein the first and second network elements may be, respectively, any one of:

a personal digital assistant;

a pc;

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a laptop computer;

a mobile telephone;

a router;

a server;

a regenerative repeater;

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a multiplexer; or

a codec.

13. A network according to claim 9 wherein the resource for sharing is any one of:

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memory;

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14. A networked resource sharing protocol including:

a negotiation phase; and

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15 16. A protocol according to claim 14, wherein the negotiation phase
includes a second network element requesting at least some shareable
resources of a first network element.

17. A protocol according to claim 14 wherein the negotiation phase
20 includes an agreement of a cost for the use of shareable resources of a
first network element by a second network element.

18. A protocol according to claim 14 wherein the fulfilment phase may
include the co-operative execution of a task by first and second network
25 elements.

19. A protocol according to claim 14 wherein the fulfilment phase includes the execution of a task by a first network element and the passing of a result of the task to a second network element.

- 5 20. A protocol according to claim 14 wherein the fulfilment phase includes the termination of communication between first and second network elements.